

**To:** Chairperson and Authority Members      **Date:** March 8, 2002

**From:** Mehdi Morshed, Executive Director

**Subject:** Agenda Item 5 – California High-Speed Rail 2002/2003 Schedule

**Discussion:**

Staff will present an updated schedule and key milestones for the completion of the program EIR/EIS. The Authority is currently developing the engineering and environmental methodologies needed to carry out the engineering definition and environmental analyses required to complete the draft program EIR/EIS. These methodologies will be completed by the beginning of May 2002. Once the methodologies are finalized, the engineering definition (plans/profiles of alignments, typical cross-sections, cost estimates, travel times and operating parameters) will begin. The engineering refinements to the alignments and station alternatives for further investigation will be completed by the end of July 2002. The environmental analyses needed for the draft EIR/EIS will start at the beginning of July 2002 and be completed by the end of December 2002. An administrative draft program EIR/EIS will be prepared by the end of March 2003. The public draft program EIR/EIS will be released by the end of June 2003, and the final program EIR/EIS by the end of December 2003.

Attached are the slides for the “Schedule Summary” that will be presented at the March 20 Authority meeting in San Francisco.